



# Knox Town Board Minutes

*November 6, 2019*

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The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Supervisor Lefkaditis followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present on this date:

- Supervisor Lefkaditis
- Councilman Pritchard
- Councilman Saddlemire
- Town Clerk Traci Schanz
- Deputy Highway Superintendent Matthew Schanz

Absent on this date:

- Councilman Barber
- Councilman Barcomb
- Attorney Afzali

**RESOLUTION 163-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Saddlemire seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to suspend the public meeting of November 6, 2019 and convene the Public Hearing on the 2020 Preliminary Budget. The motion carried unanimously 3:0

**RESOLVED:** to convene the Public Hearing on the 2020 Preliminary Budget.

Supervisor Lefkaditis stated the preliminary budget had been posted online, and if anyone had any questions, to please feel free to ask.

A. Pokorny stated she noticed that the item for the bookkeeper had been increased and wanted to know if she is having to do more work. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated for the record, she is not getting a raise, but the item was increased due to the increased workload because of the audit.

**RESOLUTION 164-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to close the Public Hearing on the 2020 Preliminary Budget and reconvene the public meeting of November 6, 2019. The motion carried unanimously 3:0

**RESOLVED:** to reconvene the public meeting of November 6, 2019.

**RESOLUTION 165-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to open the Public Hearing on the Proposed Local Law IV regarding Hog Farming in the Town of Knox and to suspend the November 6, 2019 public meeting. The motion carried unanimously 3:0

**RESOLVED:** open the Public Hearing on the Proposed Local Law IV regarding Hog Farming in the Town of Knox and to suspend the November 6, 2019 public meeting.

Supervisor Lefkaditis stated he believed everyone stated what they wanted to say last month, but if there was something new, to please feel free to say it tonight.

No one spoke.

**RESOLUTION 166-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to suspend the Public Hearing on the Proposed Local Law IV regarding Hog Farming in the Town of Knox and to reconvene the November 6, 2019 public meeting. The motion carried unanimously 3:0

**RESOLVED:** to suspend the Public Hearing on the Proposed Local Law IV regarding Hog Farming in the Town of Knox and to reconvene the November 6, 2019 public meeting.

Supervisor Lefkaditis stated the Halloween Party by the Knox Youth Council was fantastic. He stated it was a lot of fun with many smiling kids and the council is looking forward to doing it again next year.

**RESOLUTION 167-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to approve the minutes from the October 8, 2019 meeting. The motion carried unanimously 3:0.

**TABLED:** This motion was tabled due to further discussion and a last-minute change request in these minutes not being able to be completed. The October 8<sup>th</sup> minutes will be placed on next month's agenda.

**RESOLUTION 168-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to approve the minutes from the October 23, 2019 Budget Workshop. The motion carried unanimously 3:0

**RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes from the October 23, 2019 Budget Workshop.

Deputy Superintendent Schanz would like to advertise for more help during the winter. He would like at least 2 people in a part time position to help drive or do the wing during plowing. It is a tough position to fill due to the hours. Supervisor Lefkaditis and the Board would like the positions advertised in the local paper as well as on the electronic sign out front.

Supervisor Lefkaditis stated he received a correspondence from a resident on Crow Hill Road, stating concerns regarding the speed limit. The resident would like something temporary now and then a speed limit reduction for the future. There was a discussion regarding the Town responsibility and/or the County responsibility. The suggestion was made to speak with Attorney Afzali regarding proper signage.

**RESOLUTION 169-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Saddlemire seconded by Councilman Pritchard to authorize the Supervisor to request a speed limit reduction on the Albany County half of Crow Hill Road to match the speed limit on the Schenectady County side of the same road. The motion carried unanimously 3:0

**RESOLVED:** to authorize the Supervisor to request a speed limit reduction on the Albany County half of Crow Hill Road to match the speed limit on the Schenectady County side of the same road.

In further discussion to the above resolution, the Supervisor and Deputy Highway Superintendent will take a ride to the intersection in question and if necessary, put up a temporary sign while the speed limit reduction request goes through the process.

In the absence of Councilman Barber, the estimates for the paving of the town hall parking lot will be pushed to next months agenda.

Supervisor Lefkaditis stated the Budget workshop went very well, it was cordial, and a few minor changes were made. Supervisor Lefkaditis reviewed and explained the few changes that were made. Councilman Saddlemire asked if there would be money available for training for the building department. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated there is a line item for this purpose. Doug Roether and Tom Wolfe then asked if they too had a line item for training. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated the ZBA has a line item but the Planning Board does not. Tom Wolfe asked that the Planning Board line item (A8020.41) be the same amount as the ZBA. Pending the correct line item # this will be approved tonight.

**RESOLUTION 170-2019** - A motion was made by Supervisor Lefkaditis seconded by Councilman Pritchard to adopt the preliminary budget with the edition of the appropriate line item for Planning Board Training in the amount of \$1,500.00. The motion carried unanimously 3:0

**RESOLVED:** to adopt the preliminary budget with the edition of the appropriate line item for Planning Board Training in the amount of \$1,500.00.

The SEQR regarding Hog Farming was submitted by Gary Kleppel and will be placed on the December agenda, where the Board would look for either a positive or negative declaration to authorize the Board to send it to the Albany County Planning Board. Two months from then, in February, the Board will close the public hearing and make a determination.

Tom Wolfe asked for an update regarding home occupation. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated a negative declaration was determined, and the paperwork has to be sent to Albany County. Attorney Afzali's firm will put together the packet and send it to Albany County.

**RESOLUTION 171-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Saddlemire seconded by Councilman Pritchard to approve the Supervisor and Clerk reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously 3:0

**RESOLVED:** to approve the Supervisor and Clerk reports as presented.

**RESOLUTION 172-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Saddlemire seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to authorize the Supervisor to pay the bills for Abstract # 11 for voucher #'s 288-299, 313 & 314 in the General Account in the amount of \$ 5,021.16, and in the Highway account for voucher #'s 300-312 in the amount of \$13,186.49. The motion carried unanimously 3:0

**RESOLVED:** to authorize the Supervisor to pay the bills for Abstract # 11 for voucher #'s 288-299, 313 & 314 in the General Account in the amount of \$ 5,021.16, and in the Highway account for voucher #'s 300-312 in the amount of \$13,186.49.

Councilman Saddlemire spoke briefly regarding a Farm Transitional Workshop that the Ag Committee is putting together. This will be an all-day program with guest speakers and several agencies attending. The Committee is looking to the Board for monetary assistance in paying for speaker travel costs and lunch for the workshop.

**RESOLUTION 173-2019** - A motion was made by Supervisor Lefkaditis seconded by Councilman Pritchard to authorize an expense up to \$250.00 to the Ag Committee in connection with their February 2020 Farm Transition Workshop. The motion carried unanimously 3:0

**RESOLVED:** to authorize an expense up to \$250.00 to the Ag Committee in connection with their February 2020 Farm Transition Workshop.

Councilman Pritchard asked Knox had a Right to Farm law. It was clarified that it was an Albany County law.

#### Public Comment

Joan Adriance asked a question regarding MEGA and where the town stands with the agreement. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated he received an email this morning with the final agreement that he needs to sign and send back. The next step is to schedule training sessions and informational meetings with the community. She would also like to remind the Board of the Open Meetings Law and would like to request committees to follow the law and post when they have meetings and the minutes to the meetings.

Paul Scilpoti asked if the transfer station rules regarding construction debris would be clarified. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated he would add this to the December agenda.

Ernie Cupernall would like to establish a ping pong table group, something he asked about a while ago, before the floor was done in the basement. Supervisor Lefkaditis suggested he speak with Ray Hand. Ray would like to set up a library and together they could set up a shared space.

Amy Pokorny stated she believed it would be a wise investment to put sound proofing in the basement community room. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated now that the space is being used more often that this makes sense.

Supervisor Lefkaditis wanted to thank those who ran for public office. He stated it is very difficult, putting yourself out there. He thanked Mrs. Adriance, Mr. Pokorny, Mr. Barcomb and Mr. Barber for their candidacy. He congratulated Mrs. Schanz, Mr. Cyr, Mrs. Springer, Ms. Donati, Mr. Salisbury, Ms. Walk and himself for their candidacy as well.

**RESOLUTION 174-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to adjourn into executive session, not to reconvene and if there are no disagreements, he would like to invite Mrs. Springer and Mr. Cyr (not present this evening) to attend. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to adjourn into executive session, not to reconvene, with Mrs. Springer in attendance as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Traci Schanz  
Knox Town Clerk